

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-42 (canceled)

Claim 43 (currently amended) A cut filler composition comprising tobacco and at least one additive capable of acting as an oxidant for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide and/or as a catalyst for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide, wherein the additive is in the form of iron oxide nanoparticles, and wherein the additive is free of ash.

Claim 44 (previously presented) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive is capable of acting as both an oxidant for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide and as a catalyst for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide.

Claim 45 (currently amended) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive consists essentially of iron oxide nanoparticles ~~further comprises CuO, TiO₂, CeO₂, Ce₂O₃, Al₂O₃, Y₂O₃ doped with zirconium, Mn₂O₃ doped with palladium, or mixtures thereof.~~

Claim 46 (previously presented) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive has an average particle size of about 100 to about 500 nm or less than about 100 nm.

Claim 47 (previously presented) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive has an average particle size of about 5 to about 50 nm or less than about 5 nm.

Claim 48 (previously presented) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive has a surface area from about 20 m²/g to about 200 m²/g or about 200 m²/g to about 400 m²/g.

Claim 49 (previously presented) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive is amorphous.

Claim 50 (previously presented) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive is Fe₂O₃.

Claim 51 (previously presented) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive oxidizes and/or catalyzes the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide at a temperature greater than about 150°C.

Claim 52 (previously presented) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive oxidizes and/or catalyzes the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide at a temperature of from about 200°C to 600°C.

Claim 53 (currently amended) A cigarette comprising a tobacco rod, wherein the tobacco rod comprises cut filler having at least one additive capable of acting as an oxidant for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide and/or as a catalyst for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide, wherein the additive ~~is in the form~~ consists essentially of iron oxide nanoparticles.

Claim 54 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive is capable of acting as both an oxidant for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide and as a catalyst for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide.

Claim 55 (currently amended) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive ~~further comprises CuO, TiO₂, CeO₂, Ce₂O₃, Al₂O₃, Y₂O₃ doped with zirconium, Mn₂O₃ doped with palladium, or mixtures thereof~~ is free of ash.

Claim 56 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive has an average particle size of about 100 to about 500 nm or less than about 100 nm.

Claim 57 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive has an average particle size of about 5 to about 50 nm or less than about 5 nm.

Claim 58 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive has a surface area from about 20 m²/g to about 200 m²/g or about 400 m²/g to about 300 m²/g.

Claim 59 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the cigarette comprises from about 5 mg to about 40 mg or about 40 mg to about 100 mg of the additive per cigarette.

Claim 60 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive is amorphous.

Claim 61 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive is Fe₂O₃.

Claim 62 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive oxidizes and/or catalyzes the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide at a temperature greater than about 150°C.

Claim 63 (previously presented) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive oxidizes and/or catalyzes the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide at a temperature of from about 200°C to 600°C.

Claim 64 (currently amended) A method of making a cigarette, comprising

(i) adding an additive to a cut filler, wherein the additive is capable of acting as an oxidant for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide and/or as a catalyst for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide, wherein the additive is in the form of iron oxide nanoparticles, and wherein the iron oxide nanoparticles have an average particle size of about 3 nm;

(ii) providing the cut filler comprising the additive to a cigarette making machine to form a tobacco rod; and

(iii) placing a paper wrapper around the tobacco rod to form the cigarette.

Claim 65 (previously presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive is capable of acting as both an oxidant for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide and as a catalyst for the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide.

Claim 66 (previously presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive further comprises CuO, TiO₂, CeO₂, Ce₂O₃, Al₂O₃, Y₂O₃ doped with zirconium, Mn₂O₃ doped with palladium, or mixtures thereof.

Claim 67 (currently amended) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive is free of ash ~~has an average particle size of about 100 to about 500 nm or less than about 400 nm.~~

Claim 68 (currently amended) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive consists essentially of iron oxide nanoparticles ~~has an average particle size of about 5 to about 50 nm or less than about 5 nm.~~

Claim 69 (currently amended) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive is free of potassium and calcium ~~has a surface area from about 20 m²/g or about 200 m²/g to about 400 m²/g.~~

Claim 70 (previously presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the cigarette comprises from about 5 mg to about 40 mg or about 40 mg to about 100 mg of the additive per cigarette.

Claim 71 (previously presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive is amorphous.

Claim 72 (previously presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive is Fe₂O₃.

Claim 73 (previously presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive oxidizes and/or catalyzes the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide at a temperature greater than about 150°C.

Claim 74 (previously presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the additive oxidizes and/or catalyzes the conversion of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide at a temperature of from about 200°C to 600°C.

Claim 75 (new) The cut filler composition of claim 43, wherein the additive is free of potassium and calcium.

Claim 76 (new) The cigarette of claim 53, wherein the additive has an average particle size of about 3 nm.